

The Washington Times.

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Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ending September 21, was as follows:

Sunday, September 15	20,310
Monday, September 16	42,302
Tuesday, September 17	44,995
Wednesday, September 18	44,751
Thursday, September 19	45,451
Friday, September 20	43,124
Saturday, September 21	41,152
Total	284,735
Daily average (Sunday, 20,310, excepted)	45,767

A Tale of Two Admirals.

Nearly every American living today will remember the joy which flooded the country when Admiral Sampson, who had arrived off Santiago after Admiral Cervera had surrendered to Commodore Schley, sent his misleading and contemptible despatch to the Navy Department announcing the victory. That message read as follows:

"Off Santiago, July 3 (2-15 p. m.). The fleet under my command off the nation as a fourth of July present the destruction of the entire Spanish fleet. It attempted to escape at 9:30 this morning."

"At 2 the last ship, the Cristobal Colon, and a number of other vessels west of Santiago, and hauled down her flag."

"The victory, Oporto, and Maria Theresa were forced ashore, burned, and thirty-four men in twenty miles of Santiago. The fleet and fleet were destroyed within four miles of the coast."

"Our loss is one killed and two wounded. Enemy's loss amounted to several hundred men killed and captured, and about 1,500 prisoners taken, including Cervera."

"The man killed was George H. Ellis, quartermaster of the Brooklyn."

Originally it was Sampson's evident intention to suppress the fact that the man killed on our side was killed on the Brooklyn, as will appear later. It is not to be wondered at that the receipt of this "Fourth of July present" from the fleet under my command should have made the country ring with praise of Sampson. On the strength of his careful suppression of the vital fact that he was not present during the engagement, it is not strange that President McKinley should have called him, "You have the gratitude and congratulation of the whole American people," or that his friend and political backer, Secretary Long, should have telegraphed, "You have maintained the glory of the American Navy." Neither President nor Secretary dreamed that Sampson's way of maintaining "the glory of the American Navy," had been to ignore the report that Cervera was preparing for a sortie which probably would be attempted on the morning of July 3, and early on that morning to take the flagship New York from the fighting force and steam behind the horizon, where he remained until the morning of July 4, when he was fought and won by Commodore Schley.

When the humiliating truth developed a day later, we all remember the universal popular rage it provoked. The American public might have forgiven Sampson for his absence from the scene, and accepted his own excuses for it, if he had been man enough to accept the situation, and to tell the truth about it. But he did not. He attempted in every way possible to create the impression that the victory was his personally, and in his despatch he did not so much as mention the name of Commodore Schley, who commanded, and to whom Admiral Cervera surrendered. Sampson's suppression of the truth did not end here. After the battle was over, Commodore Schley sent Lieutenant Sears ashore to report to the Navy Department. Shortly after he arrived at the cable station he was overtaken by Lieutenant Stanton, of Admiral Sampson's staff, who stopped Commodore Schley's despatch, and substituted the famous, or infamous, one with which the country is familiar, to its eternal disgust. Mr. Sears demurred to being shut off, but Mr. Stanton reminded him that a junior officer was not entitled, under navy regulations, to make reports to the Government save through the channel of the "commander-in-chief," that officer being present after the fighting and danger was all over. Mr. Sears did induce Sampson's man to add the paragraph to the "Fourth of July" message, acknowledging that the one sailor who was killed belonged to the Brooklyn. The message which Commodore Schley intended to forward to the Navy Department, but which was suppressed by Sampson's orders, read as follows:

"Santiago, July 3, 1898. Spanish squadron came out of Santiago Harbor this morning, July 3, at half-past nine, and were all captured or destroyed in a running fight to the westward of about three and one-half hours."

"Very few casualties in our fleet. Ellis, chief yeoman, killed. One man wounded on the Brooklyn. Reports from other ships not in yet."

"The commander-in-chief now superintending transfer of prisoners to the Brooklyn and Oregon at a quarter past one p. m. Victory complete. Details later."

"Several water pump complaints (of) the Brooklyn filled with water. Probably pierced or strained."

There was a modest, business-like report of actual facts and occurrences, without a word of self-praise or bombast. If that message, instead of the vainglorious and curish despatch of Sampson had gotten on the wire before Sampson's messenger arrived to stop it, the country would have known what really had happened, although it still would have required a day for it to learn that the "commander-in-chief" had not appeared until after the last Spanish ship, the Cristobal Colon, had surrendered to the Brooklyn and the Oregon."

The two despatches—the false one and the true—are fairly representative of the men whose names are signed to them. Let our readers compare them and decide which is most likely to have been written by the officer who fought the battle—and won it.

New York and Chicago.

New York is deriving considerable satisfaction from the deferring of the scheme which, it carried out successfully, would make Chicago an ocean port. There is nothing surprising in this, for as foreign trade is now distributing itself, our commercial metropolis naturally feels a little nervous about every project that is designed to divert ocean traffic from its present course. The country, as a whole, is gaining in commerce much more rapidly than New York is—notably so in the matter of export trade. For exam-

ple, the eight months of 1901 show an increase in export of wheat from the United States of more than sixty-three million bushels over the same period of last year. Of this total New York gained only about one-tenth. Computed by percentages, the country at large increased twenty-six per cent, while New York gained only nine per cent.

As The Times has heretofore observed, New Yorkers need not feel discouraged on this account. It is inevitable that as the country develops in its most remote parts there must be a wider distribution of its trade, and twenty-seventh century ports can scarcely fail to increase their proportion, compared with that of one port, even though it be so favorably located as is New York. There is no apparent danger of that city losing its pre-eminence very soon, if ever, although as the other ports increase their proportion of the total will be less.

At this time it does not appear that there is any probability of Chicago's becoming a very formidable rival of New York in ocean commerce. There are too many natural obstacles in the way of the great lake city to make its competition a very serious matter to those that are situated upon the ocean front. The ships passing from Chicago to the ocean must, of necessity, use long stretches of artificial waterways. These must either be very large and enormously expensive, or the vessels must be comparatively small. As the size of ocean steamers is being steadily and rapidly increased the vessels using the canals would all the time become smaller by comparison, and this is a disadvantage to be reckoned with. Then the passage through the canals would be slow and expensive, while the tolls would also be heavy.

Upon the whole, while Chicago can send good-sized ships to the sea, it never can do it as quickly, as easily, and as cheaply as New York can. It may be said that the freight charges from Chicago to New York under present conditions would offset the increased expenses of the waterways to the sea. To a certain extent this is true, but it is a less important matter than at first appears. There are also freights to be paid in getting the produce to Chicago before it can be started on its ocean journey, and being once loaded upon the cars it costs much less in proportion to take it right on to New York. The cost of transferring and storage is saved, and freight charges are thereby less for longer distances than for shorter ones.

Of course New York does not want any such competition, whether large or small. But as the matter stands neither city need do much worrying. New York's commercial position seems to be reasonably secure, while even without any direct ocean navigation, Chicago's destiny unquestionably is to be one of the world's greatest cities.

President Roosevelt's Policy.

If President Roosevelt's purposes are correctly foreshadowed in the news reports, on two points his policy will be commendable.

First, it is said that he intends to retain Pension Commissioner Evans in his present position. In saying this, The Times does not assume that, apart from political considerations, there was any especially cogent reason why Mr. Evans should have been appointed in the first instance, or that there are not other equally good men for the office. But we think there is an eminent propriety in retaining him because of the nature of the attack to which he has been subjected. The charge made is that he has been narrow and libelous in his interpretation of the pension laws. This is simply another way of saying that he construes the laws as they are written, which is exactly what he ought to do. Every honest pensioner on the roll ought to sustain him in this course, for nothing could tend more strongly to bring the pension system into disrepute than for the belief to gain ground that the laws were being construed in a lax way, in order to let in doubtful claims.

Secondly, it is said that the feeling that this policy has already prevailed to some extent, and the ever-increasing length of the pension list in a measure justifies the feeling. General Sickles admitted that five per cent of the pension claims filed were fraudulent. In view of his position, we may safely conclude that the percentage is considerably larger, for of course he only referred to those the fraudulent character of which was known. Aside from this, the pension laws are liberal, and there would be manifest impropriety in making them still more so by loose and slipshod interpretation. The complaints made with reference to Mr. Evans' conduct of the office go a long way toward proving that he is the right man in the right place.

It is also stated that the President is opposed to any reduction of the representation of Southern States on account of the partial disfranchisement of the blacks. Whatever may be the merits or demerits of certain even as a restriction on the right of suffrage, cutting down the representation is not the proper remedy. It tends to the injury of the disfranchised as well as those who still have the right of suffrage. Every man, woman, and child in a State is interested in having the Commonwealth fully represented, no matter who does the voting.

We grant that a partisan amendment to the Constitution provides for a reduced representation where the male suffrage is limited, but it has never been enforced in any State, North or South, and it never ought to be. It stands directly opposed to the whole theory of representation, which has always been based upon population and not upon the number of voters. The amendment was never intended to secure equality of representation. The amendment was adopted, as before stated, with a strictly partisan purpose. It was greatly to President McKinley's credit that he looked with disfavor upon any scheme of reducing Southern representation, and it is to be hoped that President Roosevelt is accurately reported as taking the same view of the matter.

American Corn in Europe.

The recent report of Mr. Alfred A. Ursula, Consul at Liege, on the subject of corn consumption in Europe, and more especially in Belgium, is exceedingly suggestive in its bearing upon the possibilities which lie in the future with reference to that cereal. Corn, as is well known, is a highly nutritious grain, and is capable of use as a food product in many different ways. With some people it is less palatable than wheat, but, as in the case of the tomato, the liking for it increases with use, which not only makes its flavor more familiar, but leads to many improvements in the art of preparing it for food. The large-

ly increased consumption of it in Europe, and notably in Belgium, clearly indicates that it is rapidly making its way into popular favor.

Since 1891 American exports of Indian corn have increased from a little less than thirty-one million bushels annually to more than two hundred and nine million bushels. In other words, the exports are now nearly seven times as great as they were ten years ago. Of the quantity exported, all but about seventeen million bushels are sent to Europe. Belgium consumes more in proportion than any other European country. The density of its population is such that the country can only produce about half of the foodstuffs required. Some forty million bushels of wheat and twenty million bushels of corn are annually imported. Of the wheat we furnish about one-fifth, while of the corn we supply more than one-half.

Belgium uses about three bushels of corn for each person living in the country, while throughout the rest of Europe, the consumption is not much more than half a bushel per capita. This upon a continent where vast numbers of people are notoriously ill-famined, where in large areas even famine is of more or less frequent occurrence, in some parts of Europe wheat bread is a luxury, while to millions of people it is practically unknown as food. The price places it above their reach. They must live on cheaper foods, and this opens up a great possible demand for American corn. European consumption having increased sixfold in ten years, and being now only a little more than half a bushel per capita, it would seem as if our exports of the cereal might be multiplied almost indefinitely.

This is a matter of the very greatest importance to the United States. It is in the habit of regarding wheat and cotton as our two greatest crops, because we export more of them than of any others. But the fact is that under normal conditions our corn crop is very much more valuable than either of the two named. There is a failure fully to appreciate the kingship of corn because so much of it is used at home, but in real value it wears the crown, nevertheless. What is more, there is no reason why it should not also become our greatest export staple, if proper effort is made to bring its real merits home to the European people.

The advance which has been made during the last ten years has been mainly the outgrowth of a movement inaugurated in 1888 by Col. Charles J. Murphy, as special commissioner of the Agricultural Department. Both the Government and private individuals can do much in the way of showing the hungry poor, and even many who are not so poor, that corn is a most valuable food product. This being done, it will be hard to draw a line of limitation upon our corn trade. We produce about three-fourths of the world's entire crop, and our corn belt is almost as extensive as the entire area of the continent of South America. If the rest of Europe consumed as much corn per capita as Belgium does, and we furnished the same proportion of the whole, it would mean the annual sale of seven hundred and fifty million bushels of American corn to the people of that continent, and the value could scarcely be less than five hundred millions of dollars.

All but two countries entitled to representation have selected delegates to the Pan-American Congress at the City of Mexico. These are Honduras and the Dominican Republic. They will be represented, however, The American and other delegates at present in the United States travel under a special train from Washington. The State Department entertains high hopes regarding the good that probably will be accomplished by the Congress in promoting arbitration as a means of settling difficulties between the States of this hemisphere and in fostering better trade relations.

There is nothing of what the unregenerate call the "short report" about Sir Thomas Lipton. He is as cheerful and confident as ever in notwithstanding the fact that his admiring fellow countrymen, since Thursday's performance, have been laying odds against the Shamrock. Columbia stock was never so high as at present, and public confidence in her captain is as high as it has been for years. Nevertheless, it may be misplaced. Sir Thomas says that all he wants is a stiff breeze. It would be a pity if, at this season of the year, he could not be accommodated off Sandy Hook.

It is reported that the aged workers at Bellaire, Ohio, have decided to secede from the Amalgamated Association. They do not return to work on President Sherman's order of strike off, and are represented as being very indignant at the officers of the union. They will go back to the Bellaire plant on Monday, accepting the company's terms. That event will very nearly mark the last of the steel strike.

Lovett's scouts have had another disastrous skirmish with the Boers. This time the scouts were surprised at Elands Kloof, and Colonel Murray, commanding, was killed. The Boers got away with a fifteen-pound gun. This action, though small in its way, will intensify the feeling of uneasiness in England concerning the Boer war, and the Boers are occurring incessantly, and there are no British gains to balance them.

An interesting attempt of Admiral Sampson to appear by counsel at an enquiry into the cable, according to the judge advocate, he is not concerned was summarily squelched yesterday by Admiral Dewey, speaking for the Court. Of course, the application could not be granted, but how like Sampson it was to make it!

The French novelist Jules Verne has lost his eyesight completely.

The Grand Duke Friedrich of Baden completed his seventy-fifth year on September 9. Next year he will have ruled half a century. He has always been a believer in German national union, and was the first among the potentates assembled at Versailles on January 18, 1871, who proposed a "Hoch" to the German Emperor.

September 7 was the birthday of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. His official career has been for the most part spent in the British War Department, for with the exception of the time when he was Chief Secretary for Ireland, in 1891-5, he has been a member of the House of Commons, and in which in the last two years he has been a member of the Financial Secretary, and in which in the last two years he has been a member of the Admiralty, where from 1892 till 1894 he was Secretary of the Navy.

Henry was sixty-five years old this year.

The jewelry of the Sultan of Johore, who has been staying in Baden-Baden, is creating considerable interest. He wears huge ruby and diamond rings set in silver, and a diamond chain, and a watch like a chandelier drop and waistcoat buttons encrusted with precious stones.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

A prominent Norwegian writer while returning home with his wife recently was grossly insulted by a student who was under the influence of liquor. Next day the student apologized, but the literary offender should not apologize again next day, dressed in a heavy fur coat, fur cape, and seal skin boots, which the author's messenger brought him. Promptly at 12 next day the too boisterous student arrived in the almost tropical heat of the professor's house, dressed for an arctic climate. No cabman would drive him, so he walked, followed by a jeering crowd. Arrived at the professor's residence he was ushered into the study, where he was compelled to partake of the professor's hospitality. In the study there were huge steaming glasses of hot whisky and water. More dead than alive the student returned wiser than he set out.

The British Parliament has quite a libel in the air. The most recent of all is that which forbids a member of the House of Commons raising both feet from the floor at one and the same time. A member may sit resting only one foot. The House of Commons is a very old rule is excepted in the case of front benches.

Curiously enough, while a member may sleep and dream, he may not snore, or else his peaceful reverie will be disturbed by the sergeant-at-arms.

At Kelt's House, dressed for a party who has ever entered the precincts of St. Stephen's wearing a cap, an event which has caused the House of Commons to call him "Don't Care" Hardie. But Lord Randolph himself once broke an unwelcome host of the House of Commons on his seat and calling out to the Government of the day who has just suffered a defeat.

Members may never stand up on their seats, for to do so would be committing a breach of the House of Commons. All my denunciations have been hurled only at the guilty ringleaders, and so far as I know, justice allows no leniency in dealing with such.

At the same time, I never lost my sympathy for those who were really innocent. I have seen the section under American administration, where I have lived for six years, I favored the looting of only two or three houses, while hundreds of my neighbors kept me busy in securing for them protection against incendiary looting. I have banners and labels presented to the section under American administration, where I have lived for six years, I favored the looting of only two or three houses, while hundreds of my neighbors kept me busy in securing for them protection against incendiary looting. I have banners and labels presented to the section under American administration, where I have lived for six years, I favored the looting of only two or three houses, while hundreds of my neighbors kept me busy in securing for them protection against incendiary looting. 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